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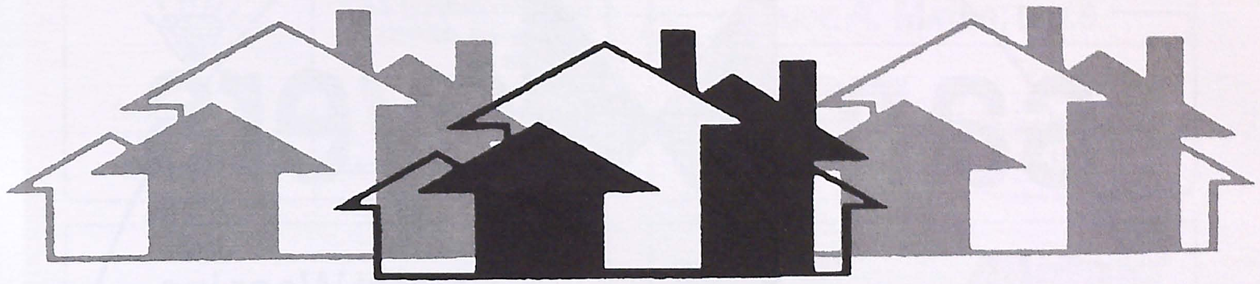
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Derby City Chorus practices at 7:30 pm every Tuesday night at Thoroughbred Hall, 10609 Watterson Trail in Jeffersontown.

Derby City CHORUS

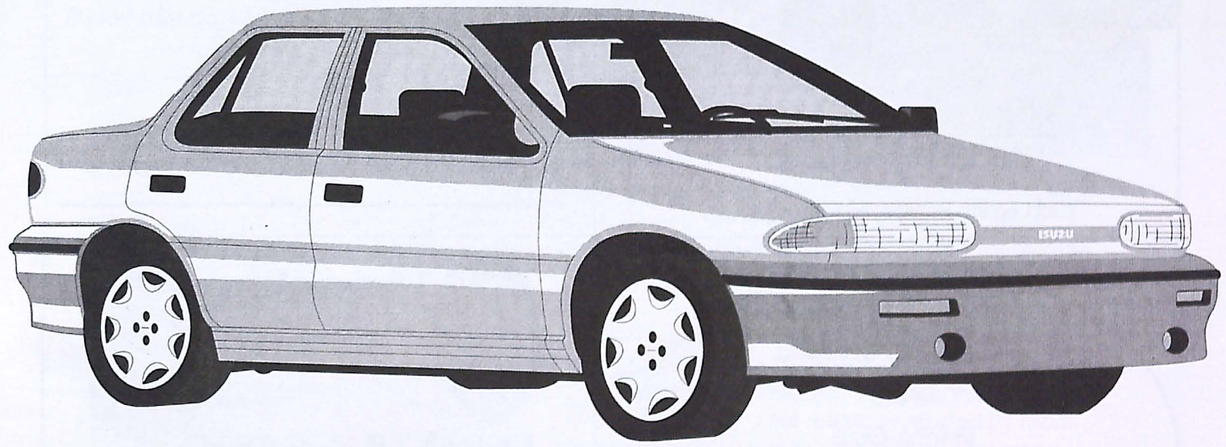
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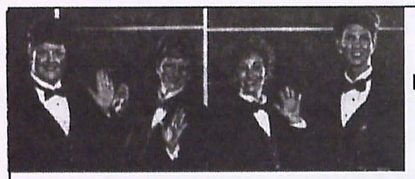
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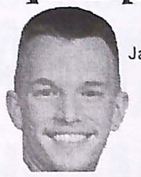
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Bluegrass Student Union
International Champions
of the
Barbershop Harmony Society
History

As teenagers, Allen, Ken, Dan and Rick began singing together as *The Bluegrass Student Union* quartet in 1973, as a result of their participation in the International Champion chorus, the *Louisville Thoroughbreds*. Their first year together resulted in a first place finish in the 1974 fall Cardinal District (Kentucky and Indiana) quartet contest.

During this time, they also built a repertoire of arrangements borrowed from famous quartets of the time, like the *Citations*, the *Suntones*, the *Club House 4* et al. Singing with the perennial champion *Thoroughbreds* provided the fledgling quartet plenty of encouragement, as well as opportunities to perform on "the big stage".

In 1975, the "Boys" first met their quartet coach Don Clause, who recognized what he called "simpatico" within the group. Don introduced BSU to then unknown arranger Ed Waesche (now International President of the Barbershop Harmony Society), who provided the ensembles' first original arrangements. BSU also enjoyed the benefit of Don's technical knowledge and fine interpretive skills, which resulted in the quartets' quick rise to the top of International Competition. The quartet finished fourth in 1976, sixth in 1977 and won it all in 1978 with its four singers ranging in age from 22 to 24.

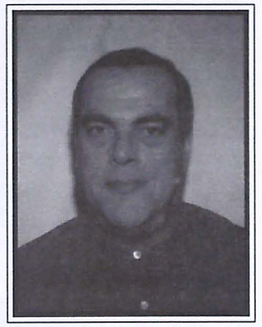


After winning, the *Bluegrass* searched for a new mission, and rediscovered the true joy of entertaining through concerts and recordings. The quartet subsequently became known as one of only a few champions who did their best work after winning the gold. They innovated with adaptations of "Swing Era" music to the barbershop style, not only by Ed Waesche, but also by Walter Latzko, who had achieved fame through his arrangements for the famous professional quartets, *The Buffalo bills* and *The Chordettes*. By focusing on all aspects of their performance, BSU's show package became one of the most popular in the society's history. Also, with the help of their expert recording engineer, Bobby Ernspiker, BSU simply outperformed everybody else where quartet recordings are concerned.

For 20 years, even while spending so much time in the studios, the quartet continued to travel and perform, covering hundreds of thousands of miles, 46 states, several foreign countries and millions of quartet fans, including President Reagan at the White House. In 1992, the group decided to take a sabbatical, to focus on careers and families. After being contacted by members of the "Harmonet", an internet barbershop harmony discussion group, the quartet was persuaded to re-release it recordings in a complete works 3-CD set, with extensive liner notes.

As a result, there was a strong resurgence of interest in live performances by the *Bluegrass*, and so they have been "lured" back to the boards. They are still going strong after 25 years with lots of "good close harmony" between the same four friends.

A Message from Our President . . . .



On behalf of the more than 120 members of the *Thoroughbred Chorus* I would like to thank each and every one of you for attending our 51st Annual Holiday Show. Though we have chosen a pretty predictable theme for this year's show we felt that we didn't want to wait another 1000 years to celebrate the end of a millennium.

We have been singing as a chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America for well over half of this century. Hundreds of men have had the privilege of being a Thoroughbred. Each of those men sang for only one reason: to hear the applause of an appreciative audience. We continue to sing today for the sheer joy of entertaining you.

If you are a man who loves to sing (or if you know one that does) we hope you will consider joining us on the risers. You can stand with us as we strive to win our eighth International gold medal in Kansas City next July and on this stage, one year from tonight. Call 267-SING for more information on membership.

Tonight's guests, the *Derby City Chorus* and our own *Bluegrass Student Union* join the *Thoroughbred Chorus* in wishing you, our special guests, a joyous holiday season and a wonderful new millennium.

We look forward to your joining us for the first show of the next 1000 years, December 1st and 2nd, 2000!



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THOROUGHBRED CHORUS FANS TO THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOW



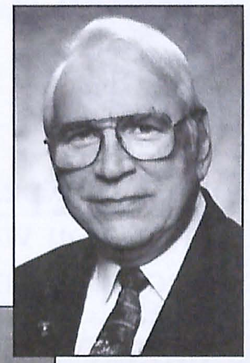
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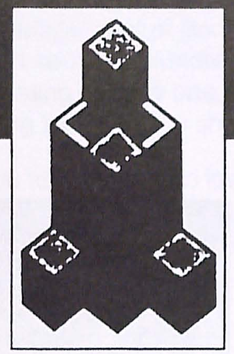
Kathryn Roark



Edward Martin

The City of Jeffersontown is very proud to be associated with the International Championship Thoroughbreds Chorus. The Thoroughbreds have been residents of our fine city for over twemty years and we are grateful for their enthusiastic support of our Veterans', Senior Citizen and Community activities. We wish the Chorus continued success and look forward to a lasting relationship

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Whether you require a large or small ensemble, the Thoroughbreds are always a real crowd pleaser performing their unique style of Barbershop Harmony. The chorus has sung before President George Bush, on ABC's *Home Show* and for General Electric's Derby Extravaganzas just to name a few. Let us add a special touch of class to your next function.

For more information please call Ken Slye, Chorus Manager at 502-266-7629

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The Thoroughbreds give a special ***Thank You*** to the Ladies Auxiliary, our wives, girlfriends, families & friends who tirelessly give their support and make it possible for us to enjoy our hobby and sing for you tonight. Without their continued dedication this would not be possible.

Please stop by the Ladies' Auxiliary Boutique in the lobby for great holiday gifts, your donation will promote our continued success.

Ladies Auxiliary Officers - *From left to right:*
Gretchen Walter-Treasurer; Marilyn Fleming-President;
Sharon Wade-Membership V.P.; Paulette French-Secretary

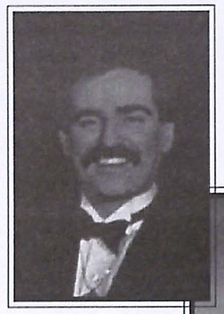
THE THOROUGHBRED CHORUS



Applegate, Jim
Bauch, Bruce
Bazaar, Gene
Bernhard, Bill
Boles, Rob, Jr.
Bowman, Robert
Bozulic, Larry
Brodeen, Richard
Brown, Leonard
Burdette, Mike
Burgess, Dan
Burgess, Jim
Carlton, Dick
Carter, Chris
Chavarry, Jonathan
Cole, James
Conroy, Patrick
Cooksey, Mel
Cox, Jimm
Culbertson, Paul
Cummins, Gary
Davis, Gary
Diersing, Paul
Dodge, Gary
Donaldson, Warren
Duncan, Dave
Ehringer, Mike
Fantoni, Brian
Forrest, Paul
Fow, Harold
French, Mike
Friedman, David
Friedman, Jonathan
Garwood, Bruce
Gilchrist, James
Grammer, Don
Grammer, Jason
Grissom, Jim
Haberlin, Chris
Hafling, G. Ed
Hammond, Obie
Hardman, Ed
Hasch, Dave
Hatton, Allen
Hatton, Dwight
Hatton, Ken
Hatton, Michael
Higgins, Jim
Hilsenrad, Jim
Houchin, Tom
Hunstiger, Eric
Jones, Mike
Julian, Don
Kiper, Marvin
Klemens, Richard
Lovett, Troy
Mariscal, James
Markley, John
Marlow, Jerry
Mattingly, Tom
Miller, Jim
Miller, Thad
Moberly, Jim
Moore, Ron
Murphy, Tex
Murray, Rick
Nicholas, Jon
Nickoson, Ernie
Nief, Tom
Oeswein, George
Ogden, Steve
Payne, Bob
Payne, Thomas
Pizer, Larry
Plette, Dave
Poole, Larry
Potecha, Reed
Prather, Tom
Recktenwald, Steven
Riedel, Richard
Roccia, Randy
Rogers, Mike
Schlader, Don
Shelbourne, Jay
Shelton, Wayne
Shetter, Stephen
Skinner, John
Slye, Ken
Smith, Stephen
Snyder, Frank
Spear, Gary
Staab, Rick
Strange, Jerry
Swan, Larry
Thrush, Robert
Triplett, Matt
Uveges, Joe
Wade, Leslie Al
Walker, Bill
Walter, W.C., Jr.
Watson, Larry
Wead, Bill
Weil, Vic
Wence, Terry
Winans, Vince
Wirth, Ed
Wolpert, Lee
Woodmore, Mark
Wright, Jeffrey
Young, Curtis

From the Music Directors

American people of the 20th century have witnessed the metamorphosis of a powerful art form, born only 10 years before the century began. Ben Harney, an African-American from Louisville, Kentucky, is credited by modern musicologists as having written the first uniquely American songs in terms of musical form in 1890, "You've Been A Good Old Wagon But You Done Broke Down", and "Mr. Johnson Turn me Loose" (In those days, "Mr. Johnson" was an often used code name for the police). By combining elements of both European and African music, Mr. Harney created what was later to be dubbed "ragtime". This was the "seed" from which emanated jazz, boogie-woogie, swing, rhythm & blues and even rock & roll. All of these "branches" have ultimately formed the "tree" of American Popular Song, or as we know it, "pop music".





Only in the past few years have African Americans joined the Thoroughbreds, and like song writer Ben Harney, these fine men have made a difference in our performance and fellowship. In pursuit of excellence, we Music Directors encourage men of good character from all races and religions to sing with us, so that together, we can best represent our community, Louisville, Kentucky, the birth-place of American Popular song.

We are grateful to the late Mr. Harney for having planted that seed over 100 years ago, and to the dedicated American composers and lyricists of "America's century", whose works provide the diverse models on which our 4-part a cappella style is based. As a result of their legacy, our Thoroughbreds continue to experience artistic fulfillment and enjoyment by singing America's songs.

Allen & Ken Hatton



Characters in Order of Appearance

Jimmy _____ Peter Potecha
Grandaddy _____ Reed Potecha
Square Dancers ____ Susan Ench
Andrea Fenwich
Trevor Gahafer
Michael Stevens

Teen Jimmy _____ Michael Hatton
Bicycle Riders _____ Susan Ench
Andrea Fenwick

Dancers _____ Andrea Fenwick
Trevor Gahafer

WWI Jimmy _____ Eric Schumacher
Flapper Jimmy _____ Eric Schumacher
Flappers _____ Susan Ench
Andrea Fenwick

1939 Jimmy _____ Reed Potecha
Wife _____ Betty Costello
Young Billy _____ Peter Potecha
Dorothy _____ Susan Ench

Scarecrow _____ Andrea Fenwick
Lion _____ Michael Stevens
Tin Man _____ Trevor Gahafer

WW II Jimmy _____ Reed Potecha
Servicemembers ____ Air Force, Army, Coast
_____ Guard, Marines, Navy

Beatnik Billy _____ Bryan Fantoni
Hip Jimmy _____ Reed Potecha
Dancers _____ Susan Ench
Andrea Fenwick
Trevor Gahafer
Michael Stevens

Hippie Billy _____ Bryan Fantoni
60's Jimmy _____ Reed Potecha
70's Billy _____ Vic Wiel
70's Jimmy _____ Reed Potecha
70's Mike _____ Peter Potecha
80's Mike _____ Michael Hatton
90's Billy _____ Vic Wiel
90's Mike _____ Michael Hatton

A Century To Remember

ACT I

California Here I Come (Thoroughbreds)

Vignette Circa 1900
American Folk Montage (Thoroughbreds)
America I Love You
Arkansas Traveler
Clementine
Turkey In The Straw
Polly Wolly Doodle
Little Liza Jane
I've Been Workin' On The Railroad
Down In The Valley
John Henry
When Johnny Comes Marchin' Home
America I Love You

Vignette Circa 1910
Daisy Bell (Frenzamine Quartet)
Down Our Way (First Verse Quartet)
Let Me Call You Sweetheart (Finish Line Quartet)
The Band Played On (Pony Chorus)

Vignette Circa 1917
Cohan Medley (Mystery Quartet)
Yankee Doodle Dandy
You're a Grand Old Flag

Vignette Circa 1925
Pack Up Your Sins Medley (Thoroughbreds)

Vignette Circa 1939
Over The Rainbow (Thoroughbreds)

Vignette Circa 1945
Patriotic Medley (Thoroughbreds)
Oh How I Hate to Get Up In The Morning
This is The Army mister Jones
Marine Corps Hymn
Semper Paratus
Anchors Aweigh
The Army Goes Marching Along
The Wild Blue Yonder
America The Beautiful
God Bless America

Vignette Circa 1957
Something's Coming (Thoroughbreds)
It Could happen To You (Thoroughbreds)

Vignette Circa 1968
Gilligan's Island Episode (Changing Times Quartet)
What Kind of Fool Am I (Thoroughbreds)

Vignette Circa 1973
My Old Kentucky Home (Thoroughbreds)

Vignette Circa 1988
The Longest Time (Mystery Quartet)

Vignette Circa 1999
Everybody Says Don't

Vignette Circa 1999 (Continued)
America I Love You Reprise (Cast)

Intermission

ACT II

Bluegrass Student Union Quartet

Derby City Chorus

Mystery Quartet

Thoroughbreds Traditional Christmas Program

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THIS IS AN ADVERTISEMENT

Derby City Chorus

Founded in 1982, *Derby City Chorus* set a fast-pace by winning its first regional competition, earning the right to complete internationally. Since that time the group has won top honors on numerous occasions. In November 1998, *Derby City* won its first International Championship at the Harmony Inc. International Convention and Contest in Indianapolis. They recently returned from the 1999 IC & C in Springfield, Massachusetts where they represented Louisville as International champs! *Derby City Chorus* will return to the competition stage in spring 2000, competing with Sweet Adelines in April and Harmony, Inc. in June. Both competitions will be held in Louisville.

The chorus performs regionally for businesses, churches, charities, fairs, clubs, nursing homes and schools.



Derby City recently produced their first professional recording, *The Spirit of Christmas*, which will be available in the lobby after today's performance. Their repertoire includes a wide variety of music, ranging from the standards of the 20's and 30's to oldies of the 40's and 50's to popular songs of today.

Women who like to sing, sang in school or church choirs, or want to lean how to be a better singer are encouraged to visit a rehearsal and try singing with the group. Voice parts range from first soprano to second alto. Director Allen Hatton has been Principal Director for *Derby City Chorus* since it was founded in 1982. Under Allen's musical leadership, *Derby City* consistently wins top honors in regional and international competitions.

Allen's music education focused on choral conducting, music theory and vocal production at Jefferson Community College, Morehead University and University of Louisville. Allen emphasizes individual excellence, and developing each womans vocal ability, stage presence, musical expression and self-confidence; which contributes to the overall excellence of the group.
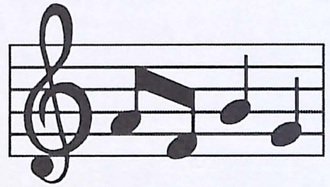
What in the world is the *Thoroughbred Chorus?*

In 1946, The Louisville #1 Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society was formed by several Louisville area businessmen, to provide an enjoyable hobby for men of good character who like to sing.



In 1957 the group decided to "get serious" about its music, and adopted the name ***Thoroughbreds***, as they entered their first competition.

Since that day, the 100-man *Thoroughbred Chorus* has competed numerous times, winning 24 Kentucky-Indiana District Championships and 7 World Championships.



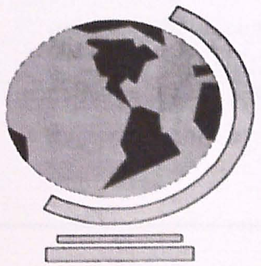
Various quartets spawned by the *Thoroughbreds* achieved greatness in their own right. 10 of these 4-man ensembles have won District Championship trophies, and 3 of them have been awarded gold medals as the best barber shop quartet in the world! These include the renowned *Bluegrass Student Union, Second Edition* and *Interstate Rivals* quartets.

Over the years, the standards set by the *Thoroughbreds* have helped raise the quality of performing throughout our singing Society all around the world.

This year we were awarded Fifth Place medals after competing in preliminary and International competitions against 800 other choruses.

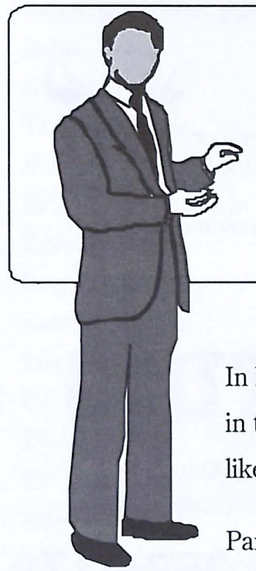


The *Thoroughbreds* give various local performances for private organizations and community events, in addition to our annual Spring Show at Ballard Performing Arts Center and our annual Holiday Show at Memorial Auditorium.



The chorus and quartets have also had occasion to perform for audiences in 46 states and several foreign countries. Our members and their families enjoy socializing together, and form lasting friendships through their common love of music.

The members of this non-profit educational organization are dedicated to their mission, "...to make people happy through excellence in singing , to set standards of conduct and performance for other Society chapters, and to exceed the expectations of every audience, and of ourselves, to the point that it becomes legendary".



Our successful "VIP" (Vocal Instruction Person) program has attracted several qualified Instructors to assist our Music Directors with the musical education of our singers. These instructors are either accomplished quartet men or degreed music educators. Through the effective efforts of these musical leaders and their students, the *Thoroughbred Chorus* is performing better than ever.

In keeping with the purpose expressed by our founders, membership in the *Thoroughbred Chorus* is open to all men of good character who like to sing, regardless of race, creed or religion.

Participation is voluntary, our only reward being the fulfillment of our mission, to make people happy in our community and in our organization. Barbershop harmony is about fellowship, fun and making music that makes you feel alive! If you're interested in learning more about the *Thoroughbreds* and possibly joining our ranks, please attend one of our rehearsals on Monday evenings 7:30 pm, at Thoroughbred Hall , located in Jeffersontown at 10609 Watterson Trail (just north of Taylorsville Rd.)

For more information please call 267-7464 and leave a message.

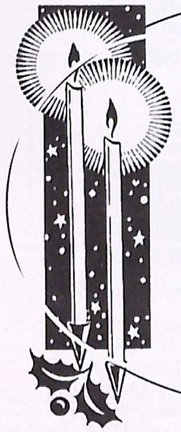
Did you like what you heard?

Would you like to see and hear the wonderful blending of voices and barbershop harmony continue for many years to come? The *Thoroughbred Chorus,* a not-for-profit, self-funded organization, would appreciate your consideration in including us on your list of charitable contributions, or perhaps in a Will for designated charities. What a wonderful legacy to leave your children and grandchildren, ensuring their enjoyment of, or even participation in, this unique blend of harmony heard anywhere the *Thoroughbreds* perform.

For further information, please contact John Markley - (502) 228-0429

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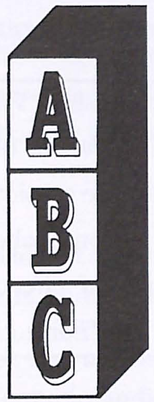
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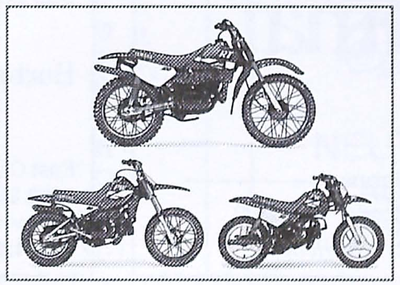
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Danny Rich
The Shipleys
Bill Thomas
Elizabeth Roberts
Cole Roberts
Bruce Carlton
Larry Carlton
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Ed Hafling
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Eric & Kristie Hafling
Tim Hafling
Joe & Marilyn Dayoc
W.C. Walter
Gretchen Walter
Mike Cochran
Stacy Cochran
Elaine Conway
Kathy Brooks
Laura Lee
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TRIPLE CROWN - THOROUGHBRED PATRON LIST

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Fred Harbison - *Looking forward to another great show!*
Danny Brown - *Go Thoroughbreds*
Bristol Thacker - *Can't wait to hear the show.*
Ken & Lataine Basham - *We love barbershop singing - especially our Thoroughbreds!*
Larry & Linda Wright - *Congratulations Jeff on 5 years with the Thoroughbreds.*
Bob & Laverne Basham - *Share that harmony with the world.*
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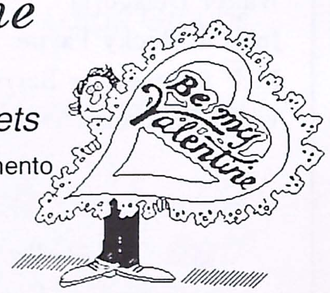
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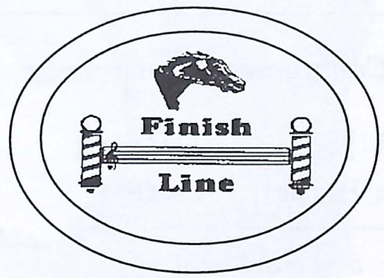
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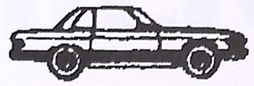


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